

October 7, 2011

Maureen Hyzer, Forest Supervisor
George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019

Dear Supervisor Hyzer,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft Land and Resource Management Plan and draft Environmental Impact Statement for the George Washington National Forest (GW).

The GW is one of the very few places in the eastern United States where large areas of relatively undisturbed, mature forest still exist. These forests and the remote settings they provide must be protected. In addition to the public benefits they provide (clean air & water, unique recreation opportunities, etc.), many wildlife species that need large geographic areas (e.g., black bears, bobcats, raptors) or habitat conditions found here (e.g., forest breeding birds, salamanders) depend upon these special habitat areas.

The draft plan identifies 372,000 acres of "potential wilderness area", or PWA. Prohibiting timber sales and new roads in the 242,000 acres of the PWA (the inventoried roadless areas) is a very positive and important step. However, the draft plan does not give the same protection to 80,000 or more acres of PWA. The entirety of all the PWA should be protected from timber sales and road construction.

Creating wilderness study areas (WSA) is an excellent means for protecting these large, remote forests. I am disappointed in the meager recommendations for WSA in the draft plan. Each of the four areas recommended are important, but three need to be increased in size. The 9000 acre recommendation for Little River is a fraction of the 30,200 acres in its PWA. Similarly, the 5000 acre recommendation for Rich Hole Addition should be increased to protect the entire 12,165 acre PWA, and the 6000 acre recommendation for Ramsey's Draft Addition should be increased to protect the full 19,072 acre PWA.

Just as importantly, many other areas of the GW are very worthy of WSA designation. No wilderness exists in the Lee RD, and part of the Big Schloss PWA should become WSA. Several other areas in the North River RD should become WSA, including Beech Lick Knob PWA and many PWA on Shenandoah Mountain. Laurel Fork in Warm Springs RD is a truly unique and special place deserving to be WSA.

I am also concerned about rare and uncommon species and natural communities in the GW. Special Biological Areas or similar designations should be assigned to all areas, in their entirety, that have been recommended for protection or special management by the Virginia Division of Natural Heritage.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,



William Sanders
355 Hartman Dr.
Harrisonburg, VA 22802

August 4, 2011

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George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019

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Sincerely,

Clara Candee
1207 Bellevue Ave
Charlottesville, Va 22901

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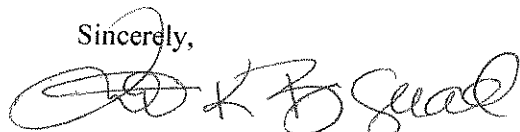
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Sincerely,

 Eileen K. Fitzgerald
915 Benham Ave
Charlottesville VA
22902

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Roanoke, VA 24019

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Sincerely,

Beth Dzanla
142 Baylon Lane
Chalottesville, VA 22902

August 4, 2011

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George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019

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Sincerely,

RONALD FANDETTI
8251 ROCKFISH RIVER RD
SCHUYLER, VA 22969

August 4, 2011

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George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019

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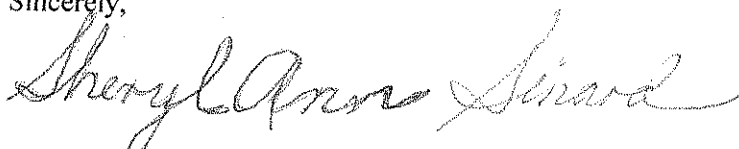
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2615 Ravenscroft Way
Charlottesville, VA 22911

August 4, 2011

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Jason Halbert

803 Stonehenge Ave

Charlottesville, VA 22902

August 4, 2011

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George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019

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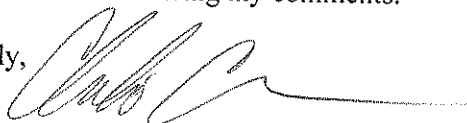
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Charles Clarkson

915 Blenheim Ave.

Charlottesville, VA 22902

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Sincerely,

Nancy Cronin
8251 Rockfish River Rd.
Schuyler VA 22969

August 4, 2011

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George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019

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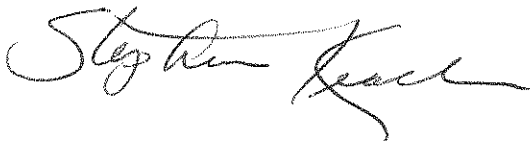
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Stephen Keach
1506 Grove Rd.
Charlottesville, VA 22901

August 4, 2011

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George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
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Eric Gilchrist
1207 Bellevue Ave.
Charlottesville, VA
22901

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,


Evan Viglietta
1300 A Poplar St.
Charlottesville, VA 22902

August 4, 2011

Maureen Hyzer, Forest Supervisor
George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019

Dear Ms. Hyzer,

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Beth Shatin

Please note - This is what I feel really, really passionate about + is my main priority. As a former seasonal employee of both GWNF + SHRP in the early 1980's, I am very familiar with these issues.

August 4, 2011

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George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019

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Sincerely,



142 Baylor Lane

Charlottesville, VA 22902

August 4, 2011

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George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Shanel E. Royse, Esquire
416 Park St.
Charlottesville, VA 22903

5685 Wyatt Ln.
Charlottesville, VA
22903

August 4, 2011

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George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019

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Thank you for considering my comments, *PLEASE PROTECT THE GEORGE!*

Sincerely,

BOB BRIGHAM

122 Ivy #8

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA

22903

August 4, 2011

Maureen Hyzer, Forest Supervisor
George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,


1028 Cottonwood Rd
Charlottesville VA 22901
434-984-1788

August 4, 2011

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George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019

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Deborah Myers
3285 Gateway Circle
Charlottesville, Virginia 22911
(434) 953-6980

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5162 Valleypointe Parkway
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803 Stonehenge Ave
Charlottesville, VA

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Rick Wellby
1028 Cottonwood Rd
Charlottesville VA 22901

August 4, 2011

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Jessica Vuglietta

August 4, 2011

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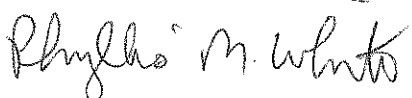
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September 24, 2011

Maureen Hyzer, Forest Supervisor
George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019

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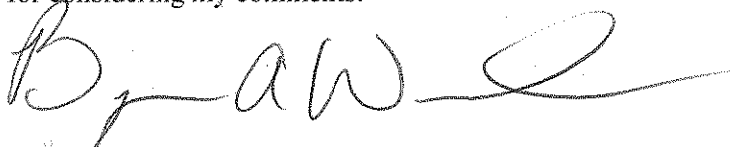
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September 24, 2011

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Sincerely,

Jacklyn Mahere
Ch'ville VA

September 24, 2011

Maureen Hyzer, Forest Supervisor
George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019

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Pamela Johnson
650 Chapel Hill
Charlottesville, VA 22901

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George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019

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Sincerely,

Sally Bastian
Wendy H. Hatcher
Charlottesville, VA 22902

September 24, 2011

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George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019

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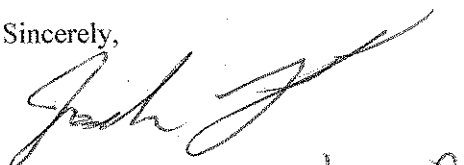
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Charlottesville, VA

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A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "R. Meinhardt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and a long, sweeping underline.

September 24, 2011

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George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019

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Charlotte Miller, VA

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5162 Valleypointe Parkway
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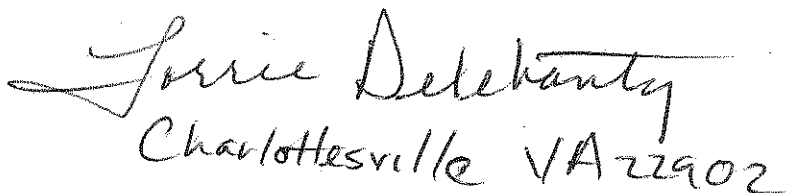
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Laurie Delehanty
Charlottesville VA 22902

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Therrell Oliver
Allemanville County

September 24, 2011

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Sincerely,

Lanette Murray + Sharon Lytle
2245 Craigs Store Rd. Afton VA 22920

August 4, 2011

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George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019

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M. J. St. John
310 Gloucester Rd
Charlottesville
VA 22904

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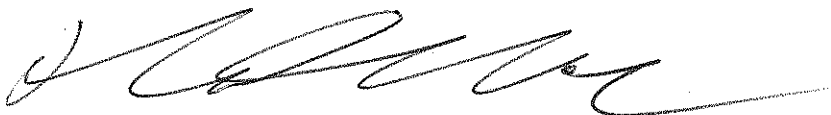
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8 Peters
Charlottesville, VA 22904



September 19, 2011

Maureen Hyzer, Forest Supervisor
George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019

Dear Supervisor Hyzer,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft Land and Resource Management Plan and draft Environmental Impact Statement for the George Washington National Forest (GW).

The GW is one of the very few places in the eastern United States where large areas of relatively undisturbed, mature forest still exist. These forests and the remote settings they provide must be protected. In addition to the public benefits they provide (clean air & water, unique recreation opportunities, etc.), many wildlife species that need large geographic areas (e.g., black bears, bobcats, raptors) or habitat conditions found here (e.g., forest breeding birds, salamanders) depend upon these special habitat areas.

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,



5027 WATERCREST DR.
C-VILLE, VA

September 24, 2011

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George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019

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Sincerely,

Mary H. Coleman
1288 Ashton Rd.
Keeswick, Va. 22947

September 24, 2011

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George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019

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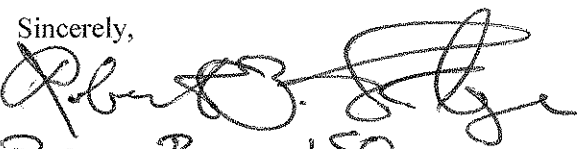
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P.O. Box 150
Batesville, VA 22924

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George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019

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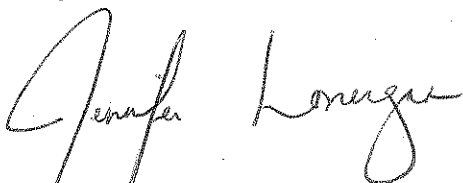
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4322 Lydias Dr

Williamsburg VA 23188

September 24, 2011

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George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019

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Sincerely,



P.O. Box 214
Louisa, VA 25093

September 24, 2011

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George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019

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Sincerely,


2623 Lawrence Rd
Charlottesville, Va
22901

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George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019

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236 Striding Ave.
CVC 22903
1

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George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019

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Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Julie Mitchell

854 A Nalle St
Charlottesville VA
22903

September 24, 2011

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Roanoke, VA 24019

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Sincerely,

Draw Moore
701 E High St. #182
Charlottesville, VA 22902

September 24, 2011

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George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019

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Sincerely,

Stephanie Hammer
103 Hickory Lane
Barboursville VA 22923

September 24, 2011

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5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019

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109 IVY DR, Apt #2
Charlottesville, VA-22903

September 24, 2011

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George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019

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Dorothy Hartt
PO Box 130
Gordonsville, VA 22942

September 24, 2011

Maureen Hyzer, Forest Supervisor
George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019

Dear Supervisor Hyzer,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft Land and Resource Management Plan and draft Environmental Impact Statement for the George Washington National Forest (GW).

The GW is one of the very few places in the eastern United States where large areas of relatively undisturbed, mature forest still exist. These forests and the remote settings they provide must be protected. In addition to the public benefits they provide (clean air & water, unique recreation opportunities, etc.), many wildlife species that need large geographic areas (e.g., black bears, bobcats, raptors) or habitat conditions found here (e.g., forest breeding birds, salamanders) depend upon these special habitat areas.

The draft plan identifies 372,000 acres of "potential wilderness area", or PWA. Prohibiting timber sales and new roads in the 242,000 acres of the PWA (the inventoried roadless areas) is a very positive and important step. However, the draft plan does not give the same protection to 80,000 or more acres of PWA. The entirety of all the PWA should be protected from timber sales and road construction.

Creating wilderness study areas (WSA) is an excellent means for protecting these large, remote forests. I am disappointed in the meager recommendations for WSA in the draft plan. Each of the four areas recommended are important, but three need to be increased in size. The 9000 acre recommendation for Little River is a fraction of the 30,200 acres in its PWA. Similarly, the 5000 acre recommendation for Rich Hole Addition should be increased to protect the entire 12,165 acre PWA, and the 6000 acre recommendation for Ramsey's Draft Addition should be increased to protect the full 19,072 acre PWA.

Just as importantly, many other areas of the GW are very worthy of WSA designation. No wilderness exists in the Lee RD, and part of the Big Schloss PWA should become WSA. Several other areas in the North River RD should become WSA, including Beech Lick Knob PWA and many PWA on Shenandoah Mountain. Laurel Fork in Warm Springs RD is a truly unique and special place deserving to be WSA.

I am also concerned about rare and uncommon species and natural communities in the GW. Special Biological Areas or similar designations should be assigned to all areas, in their entirety, that have been recommended for protection or special management by the Virginia Division of Natural Heritage.

Last, annual timber harvest levels in the GW have generally declined since the current plan was completed in 1993. This is a welcome trend. I believe the draft plan's objective for annual timber harvest should reflect the most recent harvest levels (approximately 610 acres in 2010), and be lowered considerably from the recommended range of 1800-3000 acres/year.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Eileen Johnson

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